

MTI Transcribed Credit White Paper

February 2013

When the state first began to offer the Mathematical Thinking for Instruction (MTI) course, the three-credit course was offered for free to eligible teachers and administrators across Idaho. In addition, the state paid for teachers to earn three education credits so they could advance on the state salary grid.

However, in FY2011, the state was facing declining revenues and could no longer afford to pay for providing the MTI course as well as paying for the three education credits. Therefore, beginning in calendar year 2011, as part of Senate Bill 1184 and the Students Come First laws, the state amended Idaho Code to allow teachers and administrators who successfully completed the MTI course to count it as transcribed credit, even if they did not pay for the credit, for funding purposes only of moving across the state salary grid. While the legislation change did not require local school districts to recognize this movement in local salary schedules, the state strongly encouraged them to do so.

In November 2012, Senate Bill 1184 was repealed by Idaho voters. Therefore, while the state continues to offer the MTI course at no cost to eligible teachers and administrators, the state can no longer count the completion of the MTI course as transcribed credits for funding purposes unless the individual has actually paid for the credits from the university. This was effective November 21, 2012 when the law was officially repealed. Any educator who completed the MTI course prior to November 21, 2012 would have received the equivalent of transcribed credit for funding purposes.

In order for teachers and administrators to earn transcribed credit, or the *equivalent* of transcribed credit for funding purposes, from the MTI course, they now need to pay to receive college credit for this course, or the Legislature needs to pass a bill to reinstate language in Idaho Code allowing the state recognize the MTI course as transcribed credit for funding purposes.

For the purposes of recertification, IDAPA 08.02.02.016.01 allows the State Department of Education to count the MTI course as three credits for recertification requirements regardless of whether the educator paid for the credits or not.